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The Population of New Hampshire

I. TRENDS AND CHARACTERISTICS

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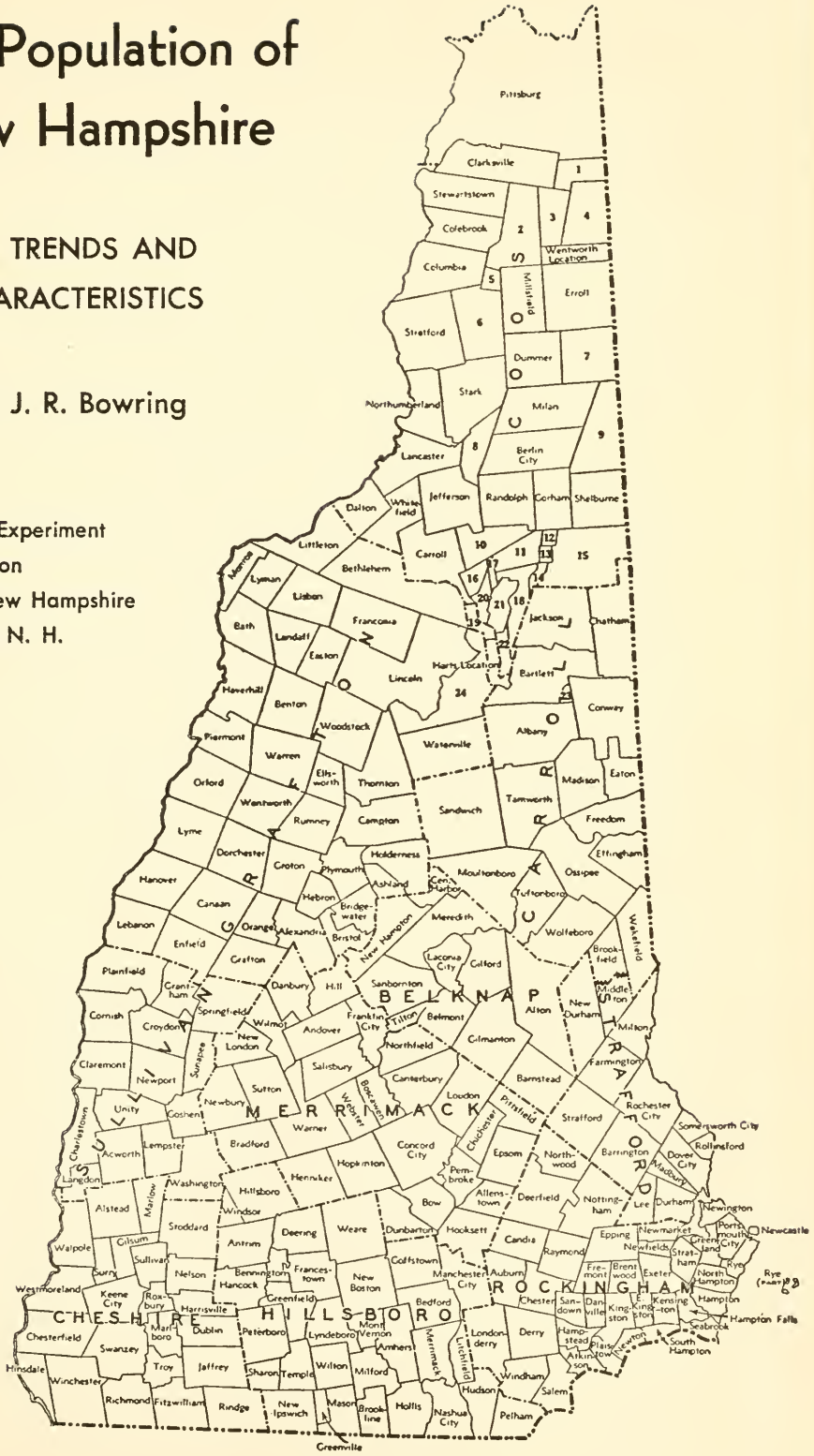
Station Bulletin 413



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Bureau of the Census. U. S. Department of Commerce, is recognized as the supplier of basic data. Additional information and advice has been received and appreciated from the Department of Economic Analysis and Planning of the New Hampshire Division of Employment Security, the Division of Vital Statistics, the State Department of Health of New Hampshire, and Dr. M. J. Hagood, Chief, Farm Population and Rural Life Branch, Division of Agricultural Economics, U.S.D.A.

Particular acknowledgement is given to Elizabeth Norton, a sociology major at the University of New Hampshire, who has done much of the spade work required in the transposing of pertinent statistical data, and who has been patient and helpful in preparing tables.

December 1954

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THIS PRELIMINARY study has been undertaken with an appreciation of the economic significance of population changes within the United States and with particular reference to New Hampshire. Selection of specific data from the detailed figures available in the census reports has been made to stress the more important changes that are occurring in the location of people. This is of particular value to business men and to state and local governments who are responsible for institutions and public services.

Certain characteristics of birth rates, age distribution, and education as well as occupation and income are offered to supplement the discussion on population location. At this stage the limits of the secondary data are the limits of this bulletin. Therefore conclusions are restrained and whenever made are founded on statistical evidence available.

This bulletin is the forerunner of further studies of population with particular emphasis on the rural-urban migration and the meaning of such migration to rural institutions and communities. Characteristic of most areas in the United States, technological progress in agricultural production is reducing the number of people required on farms to provide the nation's food supplies. Industrial employment opportunities have provided the vehicle for movement out of agriculture since 1940 in particular. Such shifts create social problems in rural areas and in the urban areas to which people have moved. It is opportune, therefore, that such problems be studied and analyzed to enable individuals and government better to appreciate the adjustments and to aid in the transition.

Trends

Regional Changes

The United States population has increased between each ten year census. The rate of increase has not been uniform. For example, there was a general decrease in this rate between 1930 and 1940 but the tempo was regained between 1940 and 1950.

All regions have not changed in the same degree. The rate of increase has been notably higher in the Mountain and Pacific States and lower in the New England, West North Central, and East South Central divisions. The percentage increases of the Middle Atlantic, East North Central, and East South Central divisions of the 1920's were not regained in the 1940's. The rate of New England's increase from 1940-1950, however, remains one of the lowest and exceeds only the Middle Atlantic, the East South Central, and the West North Central divisions (Table 1).

Table 1. Percent Increase in Population Since 1910 for the United States and for Regions of the United States

Region[1]	1910–20	1920–30	1930–40	1940–50	1910–50
United States	14.9	16.1	7.2	14.5	63.8
New England	12.9	10.3	3.3	10.4	42.1
Middle Atlantic	15.2	18.0	4.9	9.5	56.2
South Atlantic	14.7	12.9	12.8	18.8	73.7
East South Central	5.7	11.2	9.0	6.5	36.5
West South Central	16.6	18.9	7.3	11.3	65.5
East North Central	17.7	17.8	5.3	14.2	66.6
West North Central	7.8	6.0	1.7	4.0	20.8
Mountain	26.7	11.0	12.1	22.3	92.7
Pacific	32.8	47.2	18.8	48.8	345.5

[1]New England: Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut.

Middle Atlantic: New York, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey.

South Atlantic: Maryland, Delaware, West Virginia, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida.

East South Central: Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Alabama.

West South Central: Oklahoma, Arkansas, Texas, and Louisiana.

East North Central: Wisconsin, Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio.

West North Central: North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, and Missouri

Mountain: Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Nevada, Utah, Colorado, Arizona, and New Mexico.

Pacific: Washington, Oregon, and California.

Varying Rates of Change in New England

There has been a notable variation in the rates of population increase in the New England States. The three southern states have shown the most variation between census periods. This may be due in part to their greater industrialization which makes them more susceptible to economic fluctuations. In comparison, New Hampshire and Maine had a small but relatively steady increase in the rate of change. Vermont, with population declines in two periods prior to 1940, responded to the general increase from 1940 to 1950 along with the other states of the region (Table 2).

Table 2. Percent Increase in Population Since 1910 for States in the New England Region

State	1910–20	1920–30	1930–40	1940–50	1910–50
Maine	3.5	3.8	6.2	7.9	23.1
New Hampshire	2.9	5.0	5.6	8.5	23.8
Vermont	— 1.0	2.0	— 0.1	5.2	6.1
Massachusetts	14.4	10.3	1.6	8.7	39.3
Rhode Island	11.4	13.7	3.8	11.0	45.9
Connecticut	23.9	16.4	6.4	17.4	80.1

The magnitude of population increases between 1910 and 1950 is shown in the last column of Table 2 and Figure 1. Larger gains are apparent in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut than in the three northern New England States. The major difference is that Maine and New Hampshire increased steadily during this period at approximately equal rates.

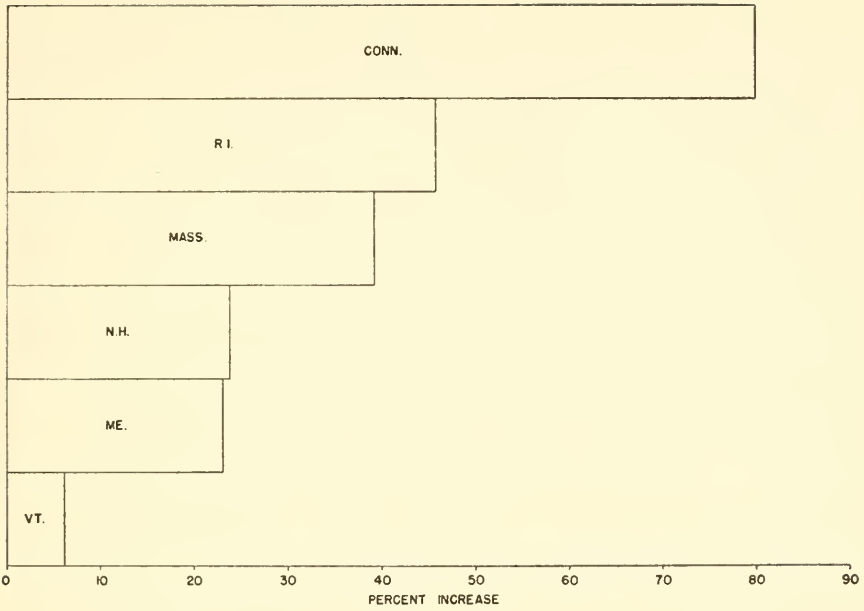

Figure 1.
Percent increase in population in the New England states from 1910 to 1950.

The number of people involved in a percentage measure of increase or decrease is greater in states with larger populations. There is considerable variation in the number of residents of the New England States. The 8.7 percent increase in Massachusetts from 1940 to 1950, for example, would mean a much greater absolute increase than the 8.5 percent increase in New Hampshire. To indicate the relative size of these neighboring New England States, Table 3 gives population numbers in 1910 and 1950. Massachusetts has the largest population, followed by Connecticut, Maine, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, and Vermont.

Table 3. Population of New England States — 1910 and 1950

State	1910	1950
Maine	742,371	913,774
New Hampshire	430,572	533,242
Vermont	355,956	377,747
Massachusetts	3,366,416	4,690,514
Rhode Island	542,610	791,896
Connecticut	1,114,756	2,007,280

Comparison with United States

The population of New Hampshire is a small part of the United States total. In 1900 it was half of one percent. Increases in other parts of the United States at rates greater than in New Hampshire reduced this proportion still further, until by 1950 it was one third of one percent of the United States (Table 4 and Figure 2).

Table 4. Population of New Hampshire and the United States and the Percentage New Hampshire Is of the United States

Year	United States	New Hampshire	Percent
1900	75,994,575	411,588	0.54
1910	91,972,266	430,572	0.46
1920	105,710,620	443,083	0.41
1930	122,775,046	465,293	0.37
1940	131,669,275	491,524	0.37
1950	150,697,361	533,242	0.35

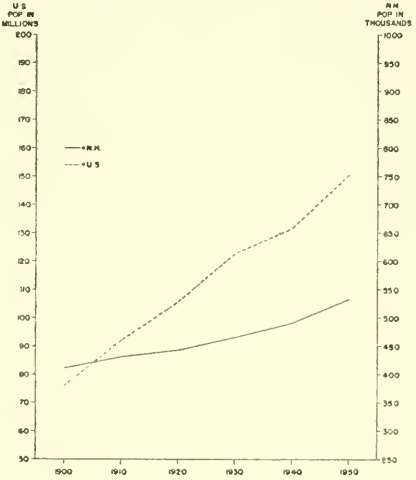

Figure 2.

New Hampshire's population increase from 1900 to 1950 relative to the increase in the United States as a whole.

Population by Counties in New Hampshire

New Hampshire has ten counties of varying sizes. The distribution of the population in these counties is given in Table 5.

Table 5. Number and Percentage Distribution of People in Each County of New Hampshire 1950

County	Number	Percent
Belknap	26,632	5.0
Carroll	15,868	3.0
Cheshire	38,811	7.3
Coos	35,932	6.7
Grafton	47,923	9.0
Hillsborough	156,987	29.4
Merrimack	63,022	11.8
Rockingham	70,059	13.1
Strafford	51,567	9.7
Sullivan	26,441	5.0
Total	533,242	100.0

Hillsborough County, where the cities of Manchester and Nashua are located, has the most people, followed by Rockingham with the city of Portsmouth, and Merrimack which has the capital city of Concord. Carroll County has the smallest population.

Urban and Rural Populations in New Hampshire[1]

The decline in rural-farm population in New Hampshire which has been going on since 1910 is similar to trends in other areas of the United States. The decline in New Hampshire, however, has been accompanied by an increase in the rural-nonfarm population. Improved roads, relatively short distances to travel, and higher wages have all fostered the settlement of city workers in rural areas. Many of these previously rural areas could now be more accurately described as suburban, particularly where they surround a city. Simultaneously there has been a shift out of farming as industrial opportunities developed and as an economic farm unit required greater capital resources.

The total rural population of New Hampshire has increased since 1930. But the number living on farms regardless of occupation has declined (Figure 3 and Table 6).

Table 6. Urban and Rural Population in New Hampshire — 1920 to 1950

	1920	1930	1940	1950[1]	1950[2]
Urban	250,438	273,079	283,225	301,249	306,806
Rural-farm	68,610	54,911	61,649	45,372	47,170
Rural-nonfarm	124,035	137,303	146,650	186,621	179,266
Total rural	192,645	192,214	208,299	231,993	226,436
Total state	443,083	465,293	491,524	533,242	533,242

[1]1940 Urban definition
[2]1950 Urban definition

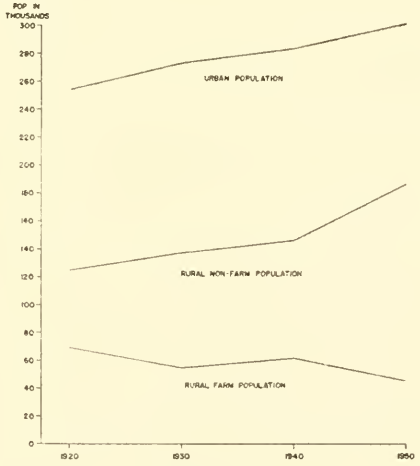

Figure 3.
Changes in the urban, rural nonfarm, and rural farm population of New Hampshire from 1920 to 1950.

[1]*Urban population* (1950 definition) comprises all persons living in (a) places of 2,500 inhabitants or more incorporated as cities, boroughs, villages,, (b) the densely settled urban fringe, including both incorporated and unincorporated areas, around cities of 50,000 or more, and (c) unincorporated places of 2,500 inhabitants or more outside any urban fringe. The remaining population is classified as rural.

Rural-nonfarm population includes all persons living outside urban areas who do not live on farms.

Rural-farm population includes all persons living on farms without regard to occupation.

Comparable Changes in Northern New England

The decline in rural-farm population which has been proceeding in New Hampshire is also characteristic of the neighboring states of Maine and Vermont. The rate of decline since 1930 has been less in New Hampshire than in the other states. Vermont leads the way with a 27.5 percent decline in rural farm population and a decline in all rural residents (Table 7).

Table 7. Percentage Change of Rural and Urban Population in the Northern New England States between 1930 and 1950

State	Urban	Rural-nonfarm	Rural-farm	Total Rural
Maine	16.5	32.5	—24.1	13.3
New Hampshire	10.3	36.0	—17.4	20.7
Vermont	15.9	23.3	—27.5	—0.3

Location of Urban and Rural Population

The highest proportion of the urban population is located in Hillsborough County and the highest proportion of farm dwellers is in Rockingham and Grafton counties. Table 8 provides a percentage distribution of the New Hampshire population by counties, and urban, farm, and nonfarm dwellers.

Table 8. Percent Urban, Rural, Rural-farm, and Rural-nonfarm Population in New Hampshire by Counties

County	Total	Urban	Rural		
			Total	Farm	Nonfarm
Belknap	5.0	2.9	2.2	0.5	1.7
Carroll	3.0		3.0	0.5	2.5
Cheshire	7.3	2.9	4.4	0.8	3.6
Coos	6.7	3.1	3.6	0.7	2.9
Grafton	8.9	2.5	6.4	1.4	5.0
Hillsborough	29.4	22.9	6.5	1.2	5.3
Merrimack	11.8	7.2	4.6	1.2	3.4
Rockingham	13.1	5.4	7.7	1.6	6.1
Strafford	9.7	7.6	2.1	0.5	1.5
Sullivan	5.0	3.0	2.0	0.6	1.4

The number of people living in the ten counties is given in Table 9.

Table 9. Location of Urban and Rural Dwellers by Counties of New Hampshire in 1950

County	Number Total	Number Urban	Number Rural		
			Total	Farm	Nonfarm
Belknap	26,632	14,745	11,887	2,589	9,298
Carroll	15,868		15,868	2,344	13,524
Cheshire	38,811	15,638	23,173	3,678	19,495
Coos	35,932	16,615	19,317	3,984	15,333
Grafton	47,923	13,432	34,491	7,350	27,141
Hillsborough	156,987	122,249	34,738	6,513	28,225
Merrimack	63,022	38,504	24,518	6,227	18,219
Rockingham	70,059	29,001	41,058	8,699	32,359
Strafford	51,567	40,749	10,818	2,585	8,233
Sullivan	26,441	15,873	10,568	3,201	7,367
Total State	533,242	306,806	226,436	47,170	179,266

Changes in Population by Counties in New Hampshire

The counties of Carroll and Coos have changed little in population numbers over the 30-year period 1920 to 1950. In contrast, Strafford and Rockingham counties increased one third during this period. A comparison of the numbers in each county for 1920 and 1950 is given in Table 10 together with the percentage change over this period.

Table 10. New Hampshire County Populations for 1920 and 1950 and Percentage Change during This Period

County	Number 1920	Number 1950	Percent Change
Belknap	21,178	26,632	25.8
Carroll	15,017	15,868	5.7
Cheshire	30,975	38,811	25.3
Coos	36,093	35,932	—0.5
Grafton	40,572	47,923	18.1
Hillsborough	135,512	156,987	15.8
Merrimack	51,770	63,022	21.7
Rockingham	52,498	70,059	33.4
Strafford	38,546	51,567	33.9
Sullivan	20,922	26,441	26.4
Total — State	443,083	533,242	20.3

The influence of World War II and its after effects on employment and mobility of population justifies separate observation of population changes in the State which have occurred between 1940 and 1950. This is given in Table 11.

Rockingham and Strafford counties increased appreciably compared with a loss in Coos and small gains in Carroll, Sullivan, and Merrimack counties.

Table 11. New Hampshire County Population for 1940 and 1950 and the Percentage Change during This Period

County	Number 1940	Number 1950	Percent Change
Belknap	24,328	26,632	9.5
Carroll	15,589	15,868	1.8
Cheshire	34,953	38,811	11.0
Coos	39,274	35,932	—8.5
Grafton	44,645	47,923	7.3
Hillsborough	144,888	156,987	8.4
Merrimack	60,710	63,022	3.8
Rockingham	58,142	70,059	20.5
Strafford	43,553	51,567	18.4
Sullivan	25,442	26,441	3.9

Migration

Accurate information on the migration of people in and out of the state during any census period is not available. However, by using the natural rate of increase during a ten-year period it is possible to estimate the probable net migration in and out of counties. The natural rate of increase is defined as the excess of births over deaths per 1,000 population. Therefore, when the rate of population growth is less than the natural rate of increase, we can assume an emmigration, and when it exceeds the natural rate we can

assume an immigration. While recognizing the limits of this type of estimate, it is valuable in showing some rather significant changes which have occurred among counties in the State of New Hampshire.

Table 13. Estimated Net Migration in and out of Counties in New Hampshire from 1940 to 1950[1]

County	Net Migration
Belknap	599
Carroll	—148
Cheshire	1,053
Coos	—6,439
Grafton	—3,416
Hillsborough	165
Merrimack	—124
Rockingham	7,998
Strafford	1,454
Sullivan	—1,226
State	—84

[1]New Hampshire Department of Labor, Division of Employment Security Section — Economic analysis and reporting. Concord, New Hampshire.

Coos and Grafton counties have lost the largest numbers during the 1940 — 1950 period. Rockingham, Strafford, and Cheshire counties have gained from immigration. Rockingham and Cheshire counties are located on the southern border which neighbors Massachusetts. Some of the increase in these counties is probably due to a number of Massachusetts people who have moved their residences into New Hampshire without necessarily changing their place of employment. Some is likely related to increased employment at the Portsmouth Naval Yard.

Coos and Grafton counties, which showed the greatest absolute decreases in numbers, are located in the north. It is not possible from the available data to determine whether residents of these counties have moved to the southern counties or have moved out of the state. From the above estimates it would seem that the state as a whole has neither gained nor lost from migration.

Statements of population movement at the county level, however, do not recognize any significant changes which may have occurred within these counties. We shall proceed to examine in more detail, therefore, those towns within counties showing the greatest population change.

Towns with Population Decreases

Table 14 gives towns with population in 1950 lower than in 1920. Between these two census dates there may have been inter-census fluctuations, but this does not interfere with the fact of a decline. Towns of over 500 were chosen to emphasize the more significant decreases.

Some of the changes do not appear great in terms of numbers of people, but if we assume a positive natural rate of increase, then the decrease from the level that would result from this natural increase would be even greater than indicated by the figures. Half of the towns are located in the northern counties of Coos and Grafton.

Table 14. Towns in New Hampshire with Population of 500 Persons and Over As of 1920, Which Decreased Between 1920 and 1950

County	Town	Population		
		1920	1940	1950
Belknap				
	Alton	1,221	1,209	1,189
	Barnstead	873	804	846
	Gilmanton	814	708	754
Carroll				
	Jackson	533	409	344
	Sandwich	1,175	742	615
	Wakefield	1,335	1,158	1,267
Cheshire				
	Fitzwilliam	962	824	872
	Harrisville	559	509	519
	Troy	1,444	1,321	1,360
	Walpole	2,553	2,400	2,536
Coos				
	Columbia	601	483	495
	Gorham	2,734	2,597	2,639
	Jefferson	960	763	728
	Pittsburg	887	820	697
	Stewartstown	1,109	1,203	970
	Whitefield	1,935	1,834	1,677
Grafton				
	Alexandria	502	396	402
	Bath	838	686	706
	Grafton	554	552	442
	Haverhill	3,406	3,487	3,357
	Landaff	510	389	342
	Lincoln	1,473	1,560	1,415
	Lisbon	2,288	2,103	2,009
	Piermont	577	535	511
	Rumney	911	861	859
	Warren	600	709	581
	Wentworth	507	491	413
Hillsborough				
	Antrim	1,052	1,127	1,030
	Greenville	1,346	1,236	1,280
	Hillsborough	2,229	2,269	2,179
	Peterborough	2,615	2,470	2,556
Merrimack				
	Andover	1,121	1,108	1,057
	Canterbury	655	659	627
	Danbury	516	578	496
	Hill	500	498	310
	Sutton	632	675	554
	Wilmot	536	466	370
Strafford				
	Rollinsford	1,701	1,463	1,652
Rockingham				
	Deerfield	746	749	706
	Newcastle	728	542	583
	Newmarket	3,181	2,640	2,709

Towns Increasing in Population

Table 15 lists towns with a population of 1,000 and over in 1920 which have increased more than 30 percent between 1920 and 1950. It will be noted that with the exception of Lebanon and Conway, the towns are located in the southern counties. Almost half are in the counties of Hillsborough and Rockingham.

Table 15. Towns in New Hampshire with Population of 1,000 and over in 1920 Increasing by 30 Percent or More from 1920 to 1950

County	Town	Population 1920	Population 1950
Belknap			
	Belmont	1,194	1,611
	Laconia	10,897	14,745
	Meredith	1,680	2,222
Carroll			
	Conway	3,102	4,109
Cheshire			
	Keene	11,210	15,638
	Swanzey	1,593	2,806
Grafton			
	Lebanon	6,162	8,495
Hillsborough			
	Bedford	1,118	2,176
	Goffstown	2,391	5,638
	Hudson	1,954	4,183
	Merrimack	1,022	1,908
Merrimack			
	Boscowen	1,260	1,857
	Hookset	1,828	2,792
Strafford			
	Durham	749	4,770[1]
	Rochester	9,673	13,776
Rockingham			
	Epping	1,276	1,796
	Hampton	1,251	2,847
	Plaistow	1,368	2,082
	Portsmouth	13,569	18,830
	Raymond	1,050	1,428
	Rye	1,196	1,982
	Salem	2,318	4,805
Sullivan			
	Charlestown	1,505	2,077
	Claremont	9,524	12,811

[1]The 1950 estimate includes the student population.

Characteristics

THE FOLLOWING discussion of certain characteristics of New Hampshire residents brings life to the numbers in the previous section. It provides estimates of the birth rate, age distribution, education, and occupation. There are no outstanding differences between the characteristics of the overage resident of New Hampshire and the United States, nor between the rural farm and urban residents in the State. What differences do occur are the real characteristics of New Hampshire people.

National Origin

The proportion of foreign born in the population of New Hampshire declined from 18.1 percent in 1910 to 13.5 percent in 1950.

Canada is the major national origin of foreign born residents. The following tables indicate the relative importance of these national groups.

Table 16. Number of French Canadians and Their Percentage of Total Population in New Hampshire

Year	Number	Percent of Total Population
1910	40,865	9.5
1920	38,277	8.6
1930	37,682	8.1
1940	29,442	6.0
1950	24,930	4.7

Table 17. Number of Other Canadians and Their Percentage of Total Population in New Hampshire

Year	Number	Percent of Total Population
1910	17,065	4.0
1920	14,179	3.2
1930	13,505	2.9
1940	12,763	2.6
1950	9,920	1.9

The other nationalities are represented by smaller percentages. Irish born were 2.5 percent of the total population in 1910 but only 0.5 percent in 1950. Nationals other than Canadian and Irish declined from 6.5 percent of the population in 1910 to 3.9 percent in 1950, or from 28,015 in 1910 to 20,731 in 1950.

Crude Birth Rate

The crude birth rate is the number of births per 1,000 population. In New Hampshire the birth rates for the years 1930 to 1951 are given in Table 18 in comparison with the United States. There is a marked increase in the 1940's and a rate decrease in 1950 is followed by a further increase in 1951. The birth rate in New Hampshire has increased steadily since 1930 but at a less rapid rate than for the United States as a whole (Figure 2).

Table 18. The Crude Birth Rate in New Hampshire and the United States by Place of Residence — 1930 to 1951

Year	New Hampshire	United States
1930	18.0	21.3
1931	16.6	20.2
1932	16.6	19.5
1933	15.7	18.4
1934	16.6	19.0
1935	16.3	18.7
1936	16.5	19.0
1937	16.2	18.7
1938	16.8	18.4
1939	17.0	18.7
1940	17.3	19.2
1941	17.7	18.8
1942	19.8	19.4
1943	19.7	20.3
1944	19.4	22.2
1945	19.2	21.2
1946	22.8	20.4
1947	26.7	24.1
1948	24.5	26.6
1949	23.3	24.9
1950	21.9	24.5
1951	22.6	24.1

Age-specific Birth Rate

The age-specific birth rate is obtained by dividing the number of births to mothers of each age by the number of women of this age and multiplying by 1,000. This will show the number of births per 1,000 women in each age group. By this method a more accurate estimate of fertility is obtained than by the crude birth rate which includes old and young, male and female, in its denominator.

The age-specific birth rate for New Hampshire is similar to that of the United States. One major difference apparent in 1950 is that more children were born on the average to women between the ages of 20 to 34 in New Hampshire than for the United States, while relatively fewer were born to women in New Hampshire older and younger than this age group.

Table 19. Comparison of Age-specific Birth Rates in New Hampshire and the United States for 1940 and 1950

Age Group	New Hampshire		United States	
	1940	1950	1940	1950
10–14	.3	.2	.6	.9
15–19	39.2	59.0	48.9	81.6
20–24	133.5	208.1	125.2	196.5
25–29	123.9	181.4	114.4	160.0
30–34	83.9	107.2	77.4	98.7
35–39	44.2	50.4	41.9	50.8
40–44	12.9	13.5	13.9	14.5
45–49	1.2	.6	1.3	1.1
50–54		.06	.05	.03

Age Distribution

An appreciation of the age distribution of the New Hampshire population is facilitated by a comparison with the age distribution of the total

United States population. The percentage in each age group is given in Table 20. It will be noted that the proportion in those age groups over 50 years of age is greater in New Hampshire than in the United States for 1950 and for the age groups 40 years and over in 1920. These higher proportions of older people is of course compensated by a somewhat lower proportion of the younger age groups in New Hampshire when compared with the United States.

This phenomenon could be explained either by the exodus of younger people from New Hampshire or by the return of older people to live in retirement, or by a combination of both.

The median age in New Hampshire increased from 29.4 years in 1920 to 32.3 in 1950.

Table 20. The Age Distribution of Population in New Hampshire and the United States for 1920 and 1950

Age Groups	1920		1950	
	New Hampshire	United States	New Hampshire	United States
Under 5	9.3	10.9	10.2	10.7
5– 9	9.0	10.8	8.2	8.8
10–14	8.8	10.1	7.0	7.4
15–19	7.9	8.9	7.0	7.0
20–24	8.0	8.8	7.1	7.6
25–29	7.8	8.6	7.2	8.1
30–34	7.0	7.6	7.1	7.6
35–39	7.0	7.4	6.9	7.5
40–44	6.5	6.0	6.6	6.8
45–49	6.3	5.5	6.0	6.0
50–54	5.7	4.5	5.9	5.5
55–59	4.6	3.4	5.3	4.8
60–64	4.0	2.8	4.5	4.0
65–69	3.0	2.0	3.8	3.3
70–74	2.3	1.3	3.1	2.3
75 and over	2.9	1.4	4.0	2.6

Comparison of Age Distribution Between Rural-farm and Urban Residents in New Hampshire — 1950

A useful method of appreciating the age distribution of the State is by means of an age-sex pyramid. Figure 4 is the pyramid for rural-farm population in New Hampshire. A decided decrease in the age groups between 20 and 24 years indicates that it is in this age group that the greatest exodus from farms occurs. In comparison, the age-sex pyramid for the urban population of Figure 5 shows a coincidental increase in the age group 20 to 24, followed by a steady decline in all age groups.

There is no great difference in the proportion of males and females in the urban population, except in the older groups where females predominate. In the rural-farm population the number of males tends to exceed the number of females in those age groups over 14 years.

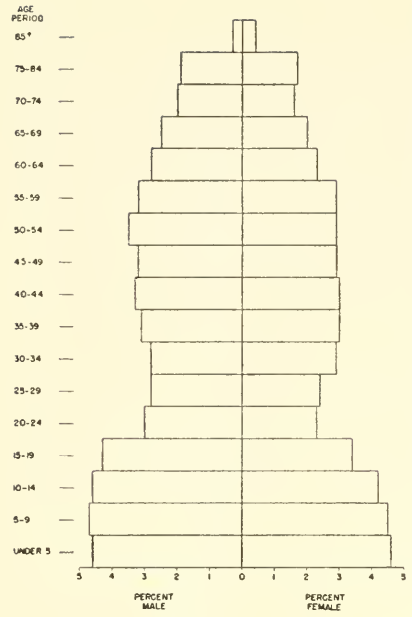

Figure 4.

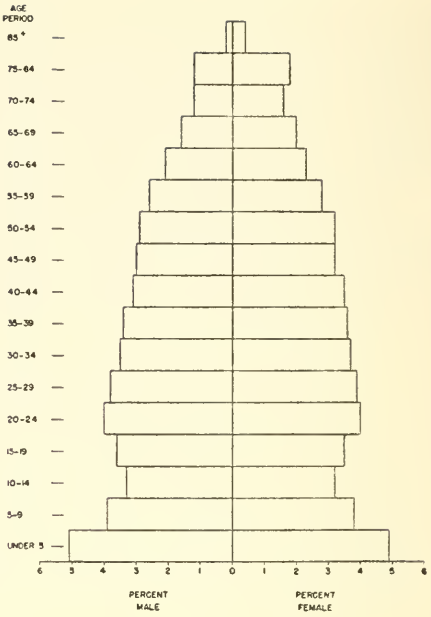

Figure 5.

The age-sex pyramid in New Hampshire in 1950. Figure 4 is based on the total rural farm population. Figure 5 is based on the total urban population.

Education

There was a marked increase between 1940 and 1950 in the proportion of the New Hampshire population over 25 years of age which completed nine or more years of schooling. Table 21 shows the relative proportions for the two periods. The proportion having only elementary school training (up to and including grade 8 only) was greater in 1940 than in 1950. The median years of school completed increased between 1940 and 1950 for those over the age of 25.

Table 21. Comparison of Years of School Completed in New Hampshire in 1940 and 1950 for the Population 25 Years and Over

Years of School		Percent 1940	Percent 1950
None		2.4	1.7
Elementary	1–4	5.6	4.6
	5–6	8.0	6.6
	7–8	39.5	30.8
High school	1–3	16.4	17.4
	4	16.7	22.9
College	1–3	5.5	7.4
	4	4.3	6.0
Not reported		1.4	2.6
Number of persons 25 years of age and over		293,759	316,380
Median years of school completed		8.8	9.8

The proportion of the population with grade 8 and over completed is somewhat higher in New Hampshire than for the United States average. More extensive education is also apparent because the proportion of people who have completed grade 8 only is higher in the older age groups. On the other hand higher proportions of the younger age groups have completed four years of high school or college. This is illustrated in Table 22.

Table 22. Years of School Completed for Males and Females over 25 Years of Age by Percentage of Total in Each Age Group in New Hampshire — 1950

Age Group	None	Group 8	4 Years High School	4 Years College
25–29	.4	16.3	34.5	6.8
30–34	.6	18.1	35.5	7.4
35–39	.3	23.6	26.7	8.2
40–44	.5	25.4	22.6	8.3
45–54	1.2	27.0	18.0	5.6
55–64	3.2	26.5	15.8	4.4
65–74	4.1	29.3	14.8	3.7
75+	4.3	33.0	14.4	2.6

Marital Status

By 1950 there is a decided increase in the proportion of both sexes married as compared with 1940. This increase contributed substantially to the increase in birth rates shown in Table 18 for the same period (Table 23).

Table 23. Marital Status of Residents of the State of New Hampshire 14 Years Old and Over — 1940-1950

Year	Single		Married		Widowed or Divorced	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
1940–Number	66,259	57,210	110,839	111,000	13,606	26,643
Percent	34.7	29.4	58.1	56.9	7.1	13.7
1950–Number	53,019	46,848	129,426	130,117	14,654	30,980
Percent	26.9	22.5	65.7	62.6	7.4	14.9

Occupation

In 1950, 54 percent of the New Hampshire population 14 years old and over was employed as compared with 53 percent of the total United States population 14 years old and over employed.

The greatest proportion of employed in the state are operatives which includes skilled and semi-skilled workers in manufacturing and service industries. A comparison of the proportion in each occupation with the United States shows the relative distribution of each occupation. Other than a lower proportion of farmers and farm managers in New Hampshire and the higher proportion of operatives there are no great differences in the distribution of occupation groups.

Income

The largest proportion of families is in the net cash income group $2,000 to $3,500 in New Hampshire. A comparison of the distribution in New Hampshire with the United States shows a greater proportion of fami-

Table 24. Comparison of Proportion of Total Employed by Occupation Group for the United States and New Hampshire — 1950

	New Hampshire	United States
Professional and technical	8.1	8.7
Farm and farm managers	3.6	7.7
Managers and proprietors	8.5	8.9
Clerical	10.0	12.3
Sales	6.4	7.0
Craftsmen and foremen	14.4	13.8
Operatives	30.6	19.8
Private household	2.0	2.5
Service workers	6.8	7.6
Farm laborers	2.5	4.2
Laborers	6.0	6.1
Total employed	202,681	56,239,449

lies in the higher income groups in the United States but a lower proportion in the $3,500 and under groups (Table 25).

Table 25. Proportion of Families by Income Groups in New Hampshire and the United States for 1950

Income Group Dollars	New Hampshire Percent	United States Percent
0–1999	25.9	27.8
2000–3499	35.6	28.7
3500–4999	18.6	19.6
5000–6999	9.1	11.5
7000 and over	4.7	7.6
Not reported	6.1	4.8

The use of cash income only will underestimate the income of rural residents and those able to raise much of their own food supply. With this reservation, over a quarter of the families in New Hampshire would appear to receive net cash incomes of less than $2,000 per year.

Observations

THERE HAS BEEN a steady increase in the population of New Hampshire since the turn of the century. The rate of increase has been relatively low when compared with some of the western states and even with the southern New England states. However, the increase continues at rates similar to the neighboring state of Maine.

The northern counties of New Hampshire have not increased at as great a rate as such southern counties as Strafford and Rockingham. There has evidently been an emigration from the northern counties. In common with the United States, the rural-farm population of New Hampshire continues to decline. In contrast the rural-nonfarm population is increasing.

Canada is still the major national origin of foreign-born residents of the state, but the relative number of foreign born to native born has declined steadily for the past four decades.

The birth rate of New Hampshire residents is increasing and the number of children born to females between the ages of 20 and 34 compares more than favorably with the United States average. Marriage rates were greatly accelerated during the 1940's.

The education of New Hampshire people, or at least the number of years they have attended school, has increased so that the current proportion of urban and rural dwellers who have attended high school compares very favorably with other states. There is a noticeable increase in the schooling of younger age groups.

Age-sex pyramids indicate males and females are more evenly distributed in the urban population than in the farm population, where there is some preponderance of males. The exodus of both males and females from farms to urban centers occurs at the highest rate around the age of 20. There is a growing proportion of older people in this state, but otherwise the age distribution is not different from the rest of the country.

A net-cash income from $2,000 to $3,500 is the most common per family in New Hampshire. This includes all earnings of members of each family. There is a somewhat lower proportion in the higher income groups than for the United States, but net-cash incomes below $2,000 per year are less common in New Hampshire than for the nation as a whole.

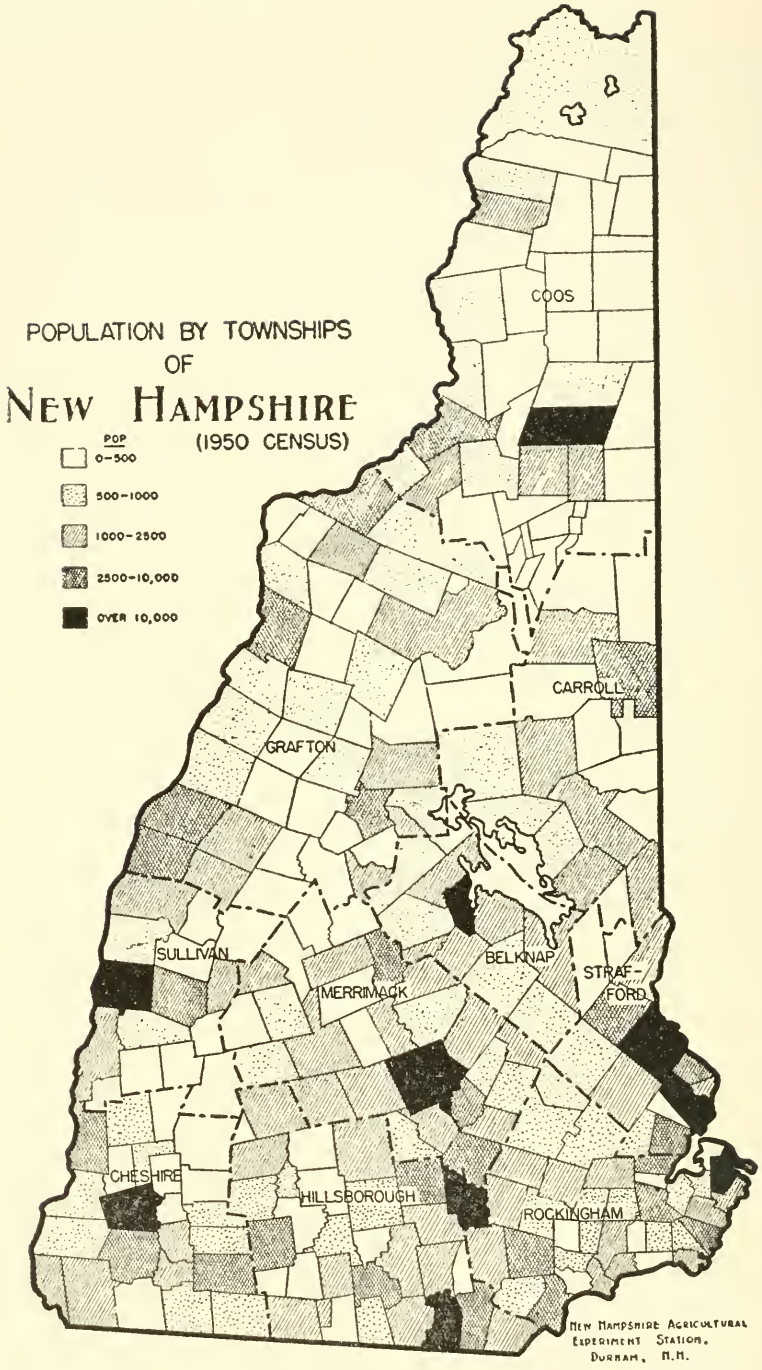

Figure 6. The population by townships in New Hampshire (1950 Census).